



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Selectmen's Minutes 02-23-2009

### TOWN OF ARLINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes  
 Monday, February 23, 2009

7:15 p.m.

Present: Ms. Rowe, Chair, Mr. Hurd, Vice Chair, Mrs. Mahon, and Ms. LaCourt

Also present: Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Rice, and Mrs. Sullivan

Absent: Mr. Greeley

#### FOR APPROVAL

1. CONSENT AGENDA (one vote required for approval of all items)
  - a. Minutes of Meeting: January 26, 2009  
 Mr. Hurd moved to table until the next meeting. SO VOTED (4-0)
  - b. Request: One Day Wine & Malt License, 5/16/09  
 Trish Goldsmith, Robbins Memorial Town Hall, Sudanese Education Fund Fundraiser  
 Ms. LaCourt moved approval subject to conditions set forth. SO VOTED (4-0)

#### 7:30 p.m. Public Hearing

2. CDBG-Performance Update  
 Kevin O'Brien, Director, Planning & Community Development  
 Mrs. Jeannette Mills, Ms. Peggy Regan and Ms. Janet McGuire reported on the progress  
 of the Board of Youth Services programs: Community Outreach Thompson School, Jobs, Jobs, Jobs, Operation Success,  
 and AYCC. Mr. David Levi reported on the progress of the Housing Corporation of Arlington.  
 Mr. Hurd moved receipt of reports. SO VOTED (4-0)

#### LICENSES & PERMITS

3. Update: Patriots' Day Parade  
 Brian Greeley, William F. McCarthy, Director of Veterans' Services  
 Mr. Hurd moved approval. SO VOTED (4-0)
4. Request: Farmers' Market 2009  
 Patsy Kraemer  
 The Farmer's Market is planned to open June 10<sup>th</sup> and close October 28<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00p.m.  
 to 6:30 p.m./Dusk. Items offered for sale at the market will be trans fat and corn syrup free.  
 Mr. Hurd moved approval. SO VOTED (4-0)

5. Request: Eco-Fest

Patsy Kraemer

The Eco-Fest (free event of the newest in eco-friendly ideas) will be Saturday, March 28, 2009, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium.

Mr. Hurd moved approval.

SO VOTED (4-0)

6. CITIZENS OPEN FORUM

The following matter was presented for consideration of the Board.

Barbara Goodman and Cindy Starks from Stand For Children announced a State House Rally on March 24, 2009 from 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. to express that all children deserve a quality education and State and Federal legislators need to support communities with the financial tools to do this. If people aren't available to rally then they are asked to please sign a postcard and return it by March 17<sup>th</sup> so that they can be turned in that day.

TRAFFIC RULES & ORDERS/OTHER BUSINESS7. Update: Website and Request/Answer Center

Joan Roman, Webmaster

Ms. Roman presented the Selectmen with the website policy, overview, accomplishments, challenges, and future objectives. The website offers main site information, Town of Arlington notices, and a request/answer center. The website is a second year Common Cause award recipient.

8. Opening of Special Town Meeting Warrant

Juliana Rice, Town Counsel

The Special Town Warrant will open on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. and close on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. The Special Town Meeting is to allow the Town to make necessary budget adjustments to respond to the governor's reduction in state aid in FY2009.

Mr. Hurd moved approval.

SO VOTED (4-0)

9. WARRANT ARTICLE HEARINGS

Ms. Rowe passed authority to reside over the meeting to Mr. Hurd because she had been involved with creating the Green Dog proposal.

The hearings began with the Green Dog Pilot presentation by Lesley Mayer, Parks and Recreation Commission, which would allow dog owners by permit to have licensed dogs off leash at certain designated times in specifically defined areas of the following public Town properties only-Crusher Lot/Ottoson Woods, Hill's Hill Woods, Hurd Field, Magnolia Field, McClennan Park, Menotomy Rocks Park, Park Circle Water Tower, Poet's Corner, Reservoir, Robbins Farm Park, Spy Pond Park & Field, Thorndike Field, and Turkey Hill. The Green Dog would be a one-year pilot program that will expire one year from the pilot start date and must be approved for continuation at a subsequent Town Meeting with an evaluation by park users, abutters, dog owners, Park and Recreation Commissioners, Police, Public Works Department, and park rangers.

The following people spoke in favor of the dog parks:

-Claire Levine, 52 Fountain Road: feels dog owners have waited a long time for dog accommodations and that there is lots of overlap of people's park needs.

-Rick Cutler, 16 Draper Avenue: need dog parks to run dogs and the Town needs plans for this and is all for fenced in areas, but must be large for larger sized dogs.

-Cindy Starks, 1 Monadnock Road: feels if out of control dogs are an issue than just penalize those dogs with heavy fines.

-Cynthia Mesh, 67 Grafton Street: states it's not an issue of dogs versus people but peoples' rights versus other peoples' rights. She would like facts of the dog problems and feels it's not such a huge problem.

-Gerry Silverman: feels the proposal is a good compromise and a great way to exercise dogs.

-Dave Ludwig, 170 Newport Street: this proposal allows a place for people to take dogs.

-Everett Shorey, 144 Gloucester Street: feels the proposal is a good solution to a complex problem.

-Sharon Shaloo, 8 Ravine Street: in favor of a program but make all areas fenced from the start not as a second phase

The following people spoke against dog parks:

-Michael Quinn, 15 Shawnee Road: proposals don't help the problems and wants a workable proposal.

-Mustafa Varoglu, 26 Shawnee Road: feels the current proposal fails to account for park user safety and access, needs to be a more balanced program.

-Charles Bryant, 78 Grandview Road: feels there needs to be adjustments to the proposal especially at Robbins Farm Park and that summer time offers more problems to the proposal.

-Ken Good, 34 Shawnee Road: has change his mind about dogs in Park (was hard lined against) but now feels to allow them in parks but on-leash only.

After much discussion by the Selectmen it was unanimously agreed upon to delay a vote and table the dog warrant votes until a future BOS Meeting.

#### Article 17 Bylaw Amendment/Rabies Vaccination Clinic

Ms. LaCourt moved favorable approval.

SO VOTED (4-0)

#### Article 18 Bylaw Amendment/Animal Control

Mr. Hurd moved to table until the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

SO VOTED (4-0)

#### Article 19 Bylaw Amendment/Canine Control

Mr. Hurd moved to table until the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

SO VOTED (4-0)

#### Article 20 Bylaw Amendment/Off Leash Dogs at Robbins Farm Park

Mr. Hurd moved to table until the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

SO VOTED (4-0)

#### Article 21 Bylaw Amendment/Gated Dog Parks

Mr. Hurd moved to table until the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

SO VOTED (4-0)

#### Article 22 Bylaw Amendment/Locations for Unfenced Off Leash Dog Areas

Mr. Varoglu asked the Selectmen to build into the proposal larger safety zone buffers.

Ms. Rowe said she would incorporate his information and redraw the dog areas on the maps.

Mr. Hurd moved to table until the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

SO VOTED (4-0)

#### Article 23 Bylaw Amendment/Increase Dog Licensing Fees

Mr. David O'Rourke, stated the Town needs to enforce the leash law and believes fees need to be raised whether or not the Green Dog proposal is accepted. After some discussion between the Selectmen and Town Manager, it was agreed to table this warrant and look into revolving funds and the cost justification for increasing the fee.

Beth Ann Freelman stated an objection to an increase in the fee.

Mr. Barbara, 19 Lakeview Drive, stated that dogs are getting a bad deal and that cats another domestic pet in Town, should also have to license and requested the Selectmen to take this into consideration.

Mr. Hurd moved to table until the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

SO VOTED (4-0)

Mrs. Mahon left after the Green Dog presentation.

#### 10. Discussion: Keno to Go Monitor

Juliana Rice, Town Counsel

The Selectmen unanimously agreed there was no need to vote.

#### Correspondence Received

Chad Gibson                      Comments Re: Mass. Ave. Corridor Project                      Be Rec'd  
Michelle Gibson  
35 Varnum Street

Timothy G. Murnane                      Comcast Contact Change                      Be Rec'd  
Comcast

Ms. LaCourt moved receipt of correspondence                      SO VOTED (3-0)

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Sullivan reported that Christine Sharkey, Director of Human Health and Services, received a grant for regionalization for health services.

Mr. Sullivan reported there were several town projects put on the state list for the federal stimulus program, but there is no definitive word on whether they'll be picked.

Ms. LaCourt requested an early April date for a public budget meeting.

Mr. Hurd reported that the Mass. Avenue Corridor project is moving forward with good public input. A goal of the project is to balance usage of cars, pedestrians, cyclists, and transit. The project offers better control of the avenue for users, beautifies the area, and will maximize parking in East Arlington.

Ms. Rowe announced a DCR Greenway path meeting Friday, February 27, 2009 at 8:30 in the Town Hall Annex, first floor conference room. The project would enhance and expand recreational access providing linkages with adjacent trails to enhance the regional trail network.

A true record: Attest:

Mary Ann Sullivan

**Next meeting of BOS March 9, 2009.**